

## RECREATION



Members of the Swanson family and the Kelley Cares Foundation present their \$40,000 check to the Miracle League and City Council members.



Bill Rivers and Mac Slover, Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities' director of sports, congratulate each other after the ceremony.

# Groundbreaking Launches Miracle Baseball Field

**T**he Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities held a groundbreaking ceremony for the new Miracle Baseball Field on Saturday, June 16 at the Lee Center.

The ceremony was led by Mayor Bill Euille with the support of the entire City Council. Euille recognized the partnership between the city, the Miracle Baseball League of Alexandria and the Kelley Cares Foundation to raise \$135,000 of the \$420,000 it will cost to construct the field.

The mayor outlined the use of the field and the importance of the project to the community and presented a proclamation on the Miracle Field.

Bill Rivers, chairman of the Miracle Baseball League of Alexandria, and Lindsey Swanson, chairman of the Kelley Cares Foundation, also spoke on the partnership and the successful fundraising efforts. The Kelley Cares Foundation presented a check for \$40,000 that will support the construction of the new field. Following the speeches, there were several ribbon cuttings

including the mayor and City Council, Miracle League of Alexandria Board members, donors, participants, staff and supporters of the program.

The new Miracle Baseball Field will provide an opportunity for children or young adults to play baseball with the opportunity to hit the ball and score on a rubberized surface. The Miracle League of Alexandria team members are assigned "Angels in the Outfield Buddies" who assist them in hitting the ball and "running" the bases. The Miracle Baseball League of Alexandria is

open to any person with mental and/or physical challenges who reside in the City of Alexandria or outside the city. The field construction will begin in July. A dedication will be held in September.

For more information on the Miracle Baseball Program, contact the Sports Office at 703-746-5402 or Mac Slover, director of sSports at [mac.slover@alexandriava.gov](mailto:mac.slover@alexandriava.gov). More information about the Miracle Baseball League and the construction project may be found at [www.miraclebaseballleagueofalexandria.com](http://www.miraclebaseballleagueofalexandria.com).

## RECREATION BRIEFS

### Youth Volunteer Coaches Needed

The Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities is currently seeking volunteers to coach youth baseball, softball, field hockey, swimming, track and field, Rugby, summer basketball and football. Criminal history background checks are required. Interested persons should call the Sports Office at 703-746-5402 or e-mail [mac.slover@alexandriava.gov](mailto:mac.slover@alexandriava.gov) or [Tamika.coleman@alexandriava.gov](mailto:Tamika.coleman@alexandriava.gov).

### Alexandria Titans Youth Tackle Football Registration

The Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities; Centers, Playgrounds and Youth Sports Division is now

accepting registrations for the Alexandria Titans Youth Tackle Football program. Teams are formed in the following weight divisions and participate in the Fairfax County Youth Football League: Anklebiters, 75 lbs/ 85 lbs/ 95 lbs/ 110 lbs/ 125 lbs/ and 150 lbs. Participants will be weighed and assigned to teams according to their weight and age. This program is for participants ages 7 - 16.

Registration fee is \$30. All participants must have a Division of Motor Vehicles Identification Card upon registration. The Sportsmanship and Equipment Days will be held from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. on Saturday, July 21 (Anklebiters & 75 lbs.), Saturday, July 28 (85 lbs. & 95 lbs.) and Saturday, Aug. 4 (110 lbs., 125 lbs & 150 lbs.). The Alexandria Titans Football Camps (free for Titan players only) will be held July 30 - Aug. 2 from 6 - 8 p.m. at George Washington Middle School.

The Alexandria Titans Youth Football Booster Club is looking

for sponsorships for the 2012 season. For more information or to register online, call the Sports Office at 703-746-5402 or go on the Recreation Department's web site at [www.alexandriava.gov/recreation](http://www.alexandriava.gov/recreation).

### Community Open Play Days And Nights

July is National Park and Recreation Month in Alexandria and throughout the United States. The Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities is celebrating "Rock Your Park" by offering free Community Open Play Days and Nights throughout the summer at Ben Brenman Soccer Field and Four Mile Soccer Field.

Beginning Tuesday, June 26 we will be providing the opportunities for families, friends and neighbors of all ages to come visit our fields

to exercise, play soccer, lacrosse, touch football, rugby, frisbee and much more.

The dates and times for each location are

Ben Brenman Field (4800 Ben Brenman Drive), Tuesday and Thursday 6 to 10 p.m., Saturday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday 12 to 6 p.m.

Four Mile Soccer Field (3700 Commonwealth Avenue), Saturday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday 12 to 6 p.m.

Below are some guidelines for "Rock Your Park:"

- ❖ For city residents only.
- ❖ Show courtesy to all other field users.
- ❖ No permits or registration will be required and use will be on a first come, first served basis.
- ❖ No uniformed teams or structured games will be allowed.
- ❖ Must provide your own equipment/balls.

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## SPORTS BRIEF

### Goalie Sisters Selected for Lacrosse Classic

Olivia Cole, a rising junior at Bishop Ireton High School, and Amelia Cole, a rising 8th grader at Hammond Middle School, have both been selected to represent the Washington, D.C., region at the 2012 Brine National Lacrosse Classic. The Alexandria-born sisters' squads will battle it out with other regional teams from around the country in, respectively, the high school and middle school divisions of this event at the Maryland Soccerplex in Boyds, Md., from June 30 to July 3.

Olivia also plays for the Capital Girls Lacrosse program, while Amelia also plays for Stars Lacrosse.